

**APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
THE EXCEL ACADEMY AT THE ORR CAMPUS**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Approve the establishment of EXCEL Academy at the Orr Campus at the Orr Campus.

DESCRIPTION:

Pursuant to Board Policy 02-0424-PO03 (Adopt Small Schools), Chicago Public Schools will open the EXCEL Academy (Unit # 7290) in the fall of 2004 at the Orr Campus located at 730 N. Pulaski Rd.

Public Hearing

A Public Hearing on the opening of EXCEL was held on May 21, 2004 in accordance with the Modified Desegregation Consent Decree. The hearing was transcribed and a copy is available for review.

Enrollment

EXCEL shall be non-selective, enrolling students from Orr's historic feeder schools (Cameron, Laura Ward, Lowell, Morton, Nobel, Pablo Casals, Piccolo, Ryerson, West Park, Wright) as well as students matriculating from the closing of Orr High School (Unit #1830). EXCEL will accept 400 students in the 2004-05 school year in grades 9-12. Orr Campus boundaries will be regularly reviewed to effectuate these enrollment requirements.

Curriculum

EXCEL's mission is to motivate, teach, support and encourage a new generation of learners to pursue high academic and career goals now and after high school graduation, with a focus on the professions of teaching and leadership. EXCEL is a future teacher/future leader small school.

In addition to core curriculum subjects, electives will further enrich student learning in the core subjects. In order to help students explore the field of teaching and leadership, EXCEL will implement a specific skill building sequence at each grade level. Seniors will be able to take and education courses for college credit through one of the school's partner universities.

Governance

An advisory governing body will be established in a timely manner pursuant to the Guidelines and Procedures for the Operation of Local School Councils at Small Schools and pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-2.4b.

LSC REVIEW: Not applicable

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Not applicable

FINANCIAL: No cost to the Board at this time.

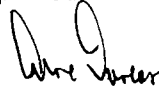
PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS: None

Approved for Consideration:



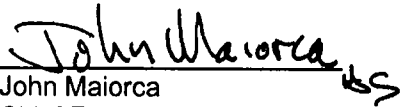
Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Approved:



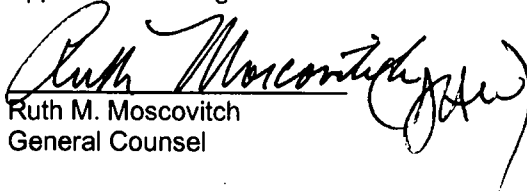
Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



John Maiorca
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to legal form:



Ruth M. Moscovitch
General Counsel